

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 DHA-02 /081 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8688

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS ACCRA 4726

LONDON FOR SEITZ

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINR, PINS, PINT: PORS, GH

SUBJ: ACHEAMPONG ENLARGES ON UNION GOVT

1. AT SWEARING-IN OF NEW CHIEF JUSTICE AND SIX NEW COMMISSIONERS (OF WHICH FIVE ARE CIVILIANS) HEAD OF STATE ACHEAMPONG ANNOUNCED HIS CONCEPT OF UNION GOVERNMENT WOULD INCLUDE A PARLIAMENT WHOSE MEMBERS WOULD BE FREELY ELECTED AND NOT "HANDPICKED". HE EMPHASIZED THAT INCLUSION OF NEW CIVILIANS WAS PROOF MILITARY REGIME NOT PLANNING TO PERPETUATE ITSELF IN POWER. (PERHAPS TO DRAMATIZE THIS HE INCLUDED TWO OTHER HIGH LEVEL CIVILIANS, ATTORNEY GENERAL KORANTENG ADDO AND ECONOMIC PLANNING COMMISSIONER GARDINER IN CEREMONY AND NEWSPAPER PHOTO BUT NOT OTHER MILITARY COMMISSIONERS.)

2. ACHEAMPONG ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS ALSO TOOK OCCASION TO PROMISE HE WOULD SHORTLY MAKE APPOINTMENTS
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OF WOMEN TO HIGH GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. HE DENIED THAT DISSENTING VIEWS ON UNION GOVERNMENT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO AD HOC COMMITTEE, STATING GOG OBJECTION IS ONLY TO USING HEARINGS AS OCCASIONS FOR PERSONAL ATTACKS.

3. MEANWHILE GOVT-OWNED GHANAIAI TIMES SUGGESTED IN

EDITORIAL THAT STUDENT ACTIVISM IS INSPIRED BY "IMPERIALIST AND NEO-COLONIALIST" ELEMENTS. BESIDES GENERALLY INDICATING THAT STUDENTS' "PREFERENCE FOR JUNGLE LAW" IS "VERY TYPICAL OF IMPERIALIST AND NEO-COLONIAL TACTICS," EDITORIAL REFERS TO NEWS STORY THAT WEAPONS (SPECIFIED AS "PETROL BOMBS, CATAPULTS WITH THEIR PEBBLES, VARIOUS CHEMICALS, PEPPER, STONES, BATONS AND OTHER MISSILES") HAD BEEN SEIZED AT KUMASI POLYTECHNIC. REMARKING THAT SUCH WEAPONS "COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN THE WORK OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE" THE EDITORIAL REASONS THAT "FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATIONS" MUST BE INVOLVED. ALTHOUGH STUDENTS DENY ANY FOREIGN INFLUENCE, THE EDITORIAL STATES, "WITHIN THEIR CAMP IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT THERE IS A STRONG IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE SO-CALLED MARXIST ASPIRANTS AND THE FREE ECONOMY PROPONENTS." SMITH

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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